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November 1, 1901

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Destruction of houses infected with disease according to the Missouri law.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., October 16, 1901.

SIR: Replying to yours of October 11, relative to the destruction of unsanitary buildings, will say: From October 1 to date, 6 buildings have been condemned and ordered torn down by the superintendent of buildings, acting in conjunction with the board of health, for the reason that the structures were virtual dens of disease. The owners of the buildings bear the entire expense of the razing and are not remunerated by the city. The board of health has authority to order this work done by virtue of a city ordinance and also a State law. The board is proceeding with the work of having disease-breeding tenements destroyed on the theory that an owner of such a structure countenances a great nuisance without regard for the lives or the property of persons owning adjacent property, and is not entitled to remuneration after having been given due notice to abate said nuisance. It was the experience of the board last year that a large percentage of the cases of smallpox, scarlet fever, and other contagious diseases could be traced directly to some one of these filthy tenements, and by removing the chief cause of the trouble it was thought that a repetition of last year's experience with the epidemic could be averted. We have met with but little opposition in the work and it is being pushed vigorously and to good advantage. No provision is made for housing tenants who are not owners of condemned buildings, they simply being notified to vacate and find other quarters. Trusting this information will prove satisfactory, I am yours, etc.

Respectfully,

CHAS. E. MALLON,
Secretary.

Arrival at Reedy Island Quarantine of vessel from West Indian port.

REEDY ISLAND QUARANTINE,
via Port Penn, Del., October 20, 1901.

SIR: Through the medical officer in command of national quarantine service on Delaware Bay and River, I have the honor to report the arrival at this station, on the 15th instant, of the American tug *Cuba*, with barges *Cardenas* and *Matanzas*, from Havana; no passengers; bill of health signed by Surgeon Glennan.

Respectfully,

T. F. RICHARDSON,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.

Arrival at Baltimore of vessels from West Indian and South American ports.

BALTIMORE, MD., October 26, 1901.

SIR: I have to report the arrival at this port of the following-named vessels from the ports named for the week ended this day: October 21, American bark *Baltimore*, from Rio de Janeiro, with coffee. October 22, Norwegian steamship *Hero*, from Daiquiri, with ore. October 24, American barkentine *Glad Tidings*, from Rio de Janeiro, with coffee.

Respectfully,

Wm. F. STONE,
Collector.

REPORTS FROM THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Eagle Pass, Tex., October 23, 1901—Inspection service.—I have the honor to submit hereunder the summary of transactions at this port for the week ended October 19, 1901: Number of passenger trains from Mexico